2 More Marines Linked to Fraternizing

Lawmakers Say Loss to Spies at Embassy May Exceed Estimates

J By Bill McAllister
Washington Post Staff Writer

Two more Marines assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow have been implicated in fraternizing with Soviet women, raising fears that more than two embassy guards may have been lured into spying for the Soviet Union, two members of Congress said yesterday.

All told five Marines have been accused of fraternizing with Soviet women, and two have been charged

with espionage.

Reps. Les Aspin (D-Wis.) and Daniel A. Mica (D-Fla.), who made the latest disclosure, suggested at separate hearings into how the Soviets corrupted members of the Marine Corps' embassy guard detachment that the intelligence damage may have been more severe than previously disclosed.

Mica, who is to leave tonight for a quick tour of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, said he has been told by State Department officials to bring children's "magic slates" to Moscow on which to write his questions. Rep. Olympia J. Snowe (R-Maine) suggested that Secretary of State George P. Shultz may do his negotiating in the Soviet capital later this month in a Winnebago flown into the city.

A State Department source indicated yesterday that the department is so troubled by the security breaches that it is nearing a decision to replace the Marine Guard detachment in Moscow with a guard force of non-Marines.

There were accounts from Moscow last night of wild Marine parties, with easy sex and lots of liquor. A Marine Corps spokesman denied a Los Angeles Times report that five Marines were returned to the United States earlier this year to face courts-martial charges of raping a British woman at a party.

But the spokesman said "about eight" Marines were summoned, from Moscow and dismissed from the guard program after a "non-Soviet woman" was taken from a Marine party at a country house operated by the U.S. Embassy and brought to the Marine house inside the embassy complex, where she had sex with several servicemen.

"It was not a rape," said Maj. Tony Rothfork, the Marine Corps spokesman. "The lady did not want to file charges." He said the Marines, including some who were aware of the incident but failed to report it, were given "nonjudicial punishment."

A State Pepartment official yesterday declined to comment about whether Shultz would use a recreational vehicle in Moscow because of concern about Soviet eavesdropping in the embassy, but President Reagan, asked about the report, said: "Well, I hope he's got one with him."

The president, speaking during a White House ceremony, also defended his response to a 1985 Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board warning about lax security at the embassy.

"Well, we thought we were doing something . . . ," he said, referring to the administration's decision in November 1985 to fire about 200 Soviet nationals who worked in the embassy. "We never took anything like that lightly," Reagan said.

The damage by Soviet agents, who were allegedly allowed into the building's communications areas by two Marine guards, is considerable, Mica said in an interview after he had talked to the embassy's resident security officer.

"I have every reason to believe they got everything they wanted," Mica said. "It is safe to say from what I've been told nothing has ever come anywhere as close to causing the loss from a diplomatic mission anytime in our history."

At a hearing into how the Marines select and train the guards, Aspin said he had been told that the other pair of Marines suspected of improperly fraternizing with Soviet women may have worked together, as did the two charged with allowing Soviet agents into the embassy on numerous occasions.

"Anyway, the people I talked to ... were pretty discouraged about the thought that this thing was very much bigger than we thought," Aspin, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, said.

Lawyer Michael V. Stuhff, who represents one of the accused Marines, said last night that he would "not be surprised" if more Marines from Moscow are found to have improperly seen Soviet women. "Fraternization was so common that there weren't any major efforts to hide it," he said.

Stuhff also accused State Department personnel of "continuously ignoring, blowing off or denigrating Marines, sometimes in front of Soviet nationals," whenever they attempted to report security problems at the embassy.

Stuhff said the Marines were "encouraged to use prostitutes" and that when Marines were caught with Soviet women, as one of the espionage suspects was, there was no quick action by embassy personnel.

Marine Corps officials, who earlier this week said they were returning all 28 Marine guards from Moscow to Quantico in the widening investigation, said they could not comment on the statements by members of Congress.

A Pentagon official said later that the Naval Intelligence Service has formed a task force of 70 agents, including polygraph examiners, to probe the conduct of those Marines and others stationed in Soviet bloc countries in what it said had become a "worldwide" investigation of embassy guards.

Since the disclosure last week that Sgt. Clayton J. Lonetree and Cpl. Arnold Bracy allegedly allowed Soviet agents into the embassy for up to four hours at a time, there has been mounting concern that there may have been other serious security breaches at the embassy and fears that more guards would be implicated.

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Lonetree and Bracy, both charged with espionage, are being held at the Quantico Marine Base where a third Moscow guard, Staff Sgt. Robert S. Stufflebeam, was transferred yesterday. As second in command of the detachment, Stufflebeam is suspected of having relationships with several Soviet women and failing to report them.

At the hearings, Aspin and Mica painted pictures of disorder and confusion over who controlled and supervised the Moscow guards. "I sense that no one is in charge," said Aspin, noting that the Marines would report to the embassy's resident security officer for operational matters and to the Marine Corps for other issues.

"What is unfolding before our eyes, and the eyes of America, appears to be more than just human error," said Mica, head of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on international operations. "It appears to be a pattern and practice, long-standing in nature, of disobedience, impropriety, poor judgment, poor training and . . . improper screening."

Marine Corps officials defended the program and argued that it has what one general described to Aspin as a "pretty tight" chain of command. Col. C.J. Del Grosso, head of the 1,300-man guard force, rejected a suggestion that the corps is seeking "loners" for the duty, which he had described as boring and often lonely.

"We state up front that the Don Juan type of Marine is a liability," he said. Both he and Maj. Gen. Carl Mundy, director of Marine Corps operations, insisted the young, single Marines assigned to Moscow could have found plenty of women to date from non-Soviet bloc countries if they tried.

The three Marines in custody are

accused of having had affairs with Soviet women. One reportedly was caught having sex with a diplomat's live-in maid in the diplomat's quarters at the embassy, but the incident was not immediately reported.

Lonetree told investigators last December how his relationship with Soviet translator Violetta Seina grew from what he called a chance meeting in a Moscow subway into clandestine meetings at her home and later at an immaculately clean house ostensibly owned by her "Uncle Sasha." Authorities believe the "uncle" is a KGB agent.

Lonetree and Seina often would meet at a subway station, then slip off to her house to have sex, he said. It was in January when Lonetree said their relationship "took on a sexual meaning" that she introduced him to the KGB agent.

Stuhff said last night that the Central Intelligence Agency had demanded that the Marine Corps launch an investigation into the release of information about the case and threatened to seek a Federal Bureau of Investigation probe if the Marines did not comply.

Marine Corps officials had announced previously that several members of the Moscow detachment have been returned to Quantico to face charges growing out of a rowdy party at the embassy's dacha outside Moscow, but had not mentioned that several of them had taken a woman back to their quarters.

In testimony before Aspin's subcommittee yesterday, and earlier in the week in a news briefing at Quantico, Del Grosso had sought to describe his battalion's disciplinary problems as no more severe than those of any Marine Corps detachment.

He acknowledged that four Marines had been returned from Moscow for black market currency dealing but said the amounts of money involved were small and that no Soviet citizens were involved in any of the transactions.

Rep. Beverly B. Byron (D-Md.), before whose Armed Services military personnel subcommittee Del Grosso testified, said she had heard that personal interactions between the Marines and embassy personnel were sometimes poor, leading to "extreme loneliness and drinking" among the guards.

Staff writer David B. Ottaway contributed to this report.